

Hawai 'i State Association of Counties (HSAC)

Counties of Kaua 'i, Maui, Hawai 'i and City & County of Honolulu

530 South King St., Honolulu, Hawaii 96713 (808) 768 - 5007 www.hawaiicounties.com



MINUTES

HSAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (Via ZOOM)

Meeting was recorded and recording will be placed on HSAC Website.

Timestamps are noted next to each agenda item.

February 25, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER (00:01)

The meeting was called to order by CM Waters at 10:18am

Introductions were made and in attendance were:

Council Members- Tommy Waters (Oahu), Kelly King (Maui), Mason Chock and Alternate Bernard Carvalho (Kauai) and Heather Kimball and Alternate Rebecca Villegas (Hawaii County);

Council and Legislative Staff- Rebecca Soon, Chico Figueiredo, George White, Kamakana Wantanabe, Kasie Apo Takayama, Aida Kawamura, James Forest, Shelly Espeleta, Nicole Kahino, Linae Cruz, Axel Beers and Jenn Kagiwada; and, HSAC Lobbyist, Jon Okudara.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (01:50)

Agenda was amended to include a discussion about Decoupling Annual Conference from the Annual Meeting (added as Old Business Item C). Amended agenda was approved with no objections.

III. MINUTES (03:50)

- A. October 2020-Deferred January 25, 2021
- B. January 25, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting
- C. January 29, 2021 Special Executive Committee meeting

A & C were passed with no objections. III "B", January 25, 2021, minutes are not complete (waiting on zoom recording) so they were deferred to next meeting.



IV. REPORTS (05:33)

A. Treasurer's Report-January 2021

Kelly King, Acting Treasurer, reported the following:

Beginning Balance \$137,388.96

Income (interest) \$2.69

Expenses (supplies & consulting) \$3,918.00

Ending Balance \$133,473.65

Treasurer's Report was accepted for audit with no objections.

B. County Reports

1. County of Hawai'i-Heather had nothing to report.
2. County of Kauai-Mason reported that the county is focusing on the houseless issue as it relates to COVID19-planning to slowly close their parks and get folks into housing with \$22 million through their housing agency. Mason also expressed concerns about probable short falls in TAT funding from the state and additional Federal dollars as it relates to their budget. Working with Maui County on figuring out the HSAC Website. Kelly added that her staff is trying to get the administrative credentials from a past county employee in order to re-start and update the HSAC Website.
3. County of Maui-Kelly reported that they contracted for an affordable housing plan and will share the details when it is available. Passed a "Social Host Liability Bill" to hold those who allow under-age drinking on their property responsible. Maui Council passed a resolution opposing HB 1286 (State decides all COVID related travel policies) and supporting SB 754 (lowering legal BAL to .05 when driving). Also passed legalizing cannabis and digital equity resolutions.
4. City/County of Honolulu-Starting budget process soon, Budget comes down on March 2. Concerns about cuts being made to social services. Looking at ways to adjust the Real Property Tax structure (vacancy tax-study from UCLA) to bring in additional money to close the gap left by little or no TAT funding coming from the state legislature. Concerned with state asking county to take on cost of ambulance service. Looking at land under public schools owned by county to be transferred to the state so they can provide workforce housing for teachers.

C. and D. NACo/WIR Report

Kelly reported that next CARES Act has funding for counties and that NACo lobbied hard for this to be included. Additional information is on the NACo website. They also stressed their support behind broadband expansion, including extra funding for Native Americans (including Native Hawaiians).

V. NEW BUSINESS (39:05)

- A. Communication (39:05) from HSAC Secretary Kimball requesting support for HB 803 and SB 756 Relating to Electric Vehicles, as well as to consider possible inclusion in the 2021 HSAC Legislative Package. *Heather reported that these two bills are still alive and asked for HSAC support. Tommy seconds and the item passes with no objections. Note: Mason asks that all councils are updated with this information.*
- B. Communication () from Kathy L. Kaohu, County Clerk, County of Maui, transmitting Maui County Resolution No. 21-16, Approving the Hawai'i State Association of Counties' Officers and Alternates for the 2021 Calendar Year. *Kelly makes motion to accept, Mason seconds and motion carries with no objections.*
- C. Request from HSAC Treasurer King to discuss opposition to HB 1286, Relating to Travel. *Kelly proposes that HSAC submit testimony opposing HB 1286, Mason seconds and motion passes with no objections. Note: not speaking for all council members but just as individuals. Kelly agrees to write testimony in opposition and send out to all 4 Officers and Jon Okudara.*
- D. Request from HSAC Secretary Kimball to discuss logistics for the upcoming HSAC Annual Conference tentatively scheduled for October 2021. *Staff were very helpful offering support, Kasie mentioned that the General Accountant can loan \$5k to start the planning (that needs to be paid back at the end. Chico has worked on past conferences and will send over information to Jenn. It was agreed that the conference should cover its own cost and it would be helpful if it could also raise some funds for HSAC. Equitable economic recovery is a probable theme. Hilo will be considered as it provides opportunities for a "deep dive" into emerging sustainable programs. October 28 and 29 were the preferred dates by the executive committee.*
- E. Report from HSAC Lobbyist Jon Okudara on legislative measures and activities. *Re: electrical vehicle parking, plenty of load voices in support, we can support buy we should just wait for crossover. Re: no TAT money for counties, says they are going to pass the bill no matter what we do or say. Vehicle registration bills are moving (except the one requiring buyer and seller to be present). Can give a better report after next week. SB 1034 is the OIP bill that allows County Councils to continue to meet virtually after COVID and has the support of Common Cause. Mason asked how HSAC can react to move to support or oppose legislation if we can't quickly meet to react or give input on new, changing legislation? Jon said he also needs more timely feedback loops so he can be effective during session. Heather proposes we put this on the agenda to get a policy in place so HSAC can be more nimble during legislative session. HB 481 (more than 2 council members could attend informational meetings) has both OIP and Common Cause objecting- Jon does not know why. HB 1314, Jon doesn't think this will pass but folks should look into it.*



VI. OLD BUSINESS (1:35:42)

- A. Request (January 19, 2021) from HSAC Treasurer King regarding a proposed Bylaw amendment for rotation of officers. (Deferred January 29, 2021). *Kelly said she'd be happy to defer indefinitely. No objections.*
- B. Request (January 22, 2021) from HSAC Secretary Kimball for a discussion regarding a proposed Bylaw amendment related to the scheduling of the Annual Meeting and Annual Conference. (Deferred January 29, 2021). *Heather described the proposed changes and how they are notated in the draft sent out to the officers. Mason asked for clarification on how HSAC makes decisions and gets work done while waiting for all four councils to approve so that change was also made. Heather said she would defer the vote until next time and Kelly said she would like more time to review.*
- C. Request from HSAC Secretary Kimball for a discussion regarding a proposed Bylaw amendment related to "cleaning up" the bylaws. *By moving policy sections that were not intended to go into the bylaws themselves into the HSAC Policies section and reordering HSAC Policies to align with HSAC Bylaws along with other small formatting changes, Heather says we have given a "cleaned up" version for the Executive Committee to review, discuss and hopefully approve at the next meeting. Will review as one "Bylaws Revision" item at next meeting, no objections.*

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS (1:42:19)

- A. Scheduled Next General Membership/Executive Committee Meeting for March 23 at 10:00am. Additionally, scheduled a Special Legislative Update Meeting on March 9 at 12:00pm.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT (1:53:32)

The meeting was adjourned by CM Waters at approximately 12:11pm with no objections.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather Kimball". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Council Member Heather Kimball

Secretary, Hawaii State Association of Counties